

APPLICANT(S): TRIBELSKY, Zamir et al.
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REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicant asserts that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-11, 14, 16-19, 21-26 and 28-31 are pending of which claims 30 and 31 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-11, 14, 16-19, 21-26 and 28-29 were rejected. Claims 1, 18 and 19 were amended. Applicant respectfully asserts that the amendments do not add any new matter. Claims 6-8, 11, 14, 16-17, 21-24 and 28-31 were cancelled without disclaimer or prejudice. Applicants reserve all rights to file the subject matter of these claims in divisional or continuation applications.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

Claims 1-8, 10, 11, 14, 16, 21-23, 28 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Mitsumori et al. (US 2001/0037819, hereinafter "Mitsumori").

Claims 9 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Mitsumori and further in view of Skeidsvoll et al. (US 2005/0081881, hereinafter "Skeidsvoll").

Claims 18 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Mitsumori and further in view of Puskas (US 2004/00182414).

Claim 24 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Mitsumori and further in view of Skeidsvoll and further in view of Elliott et al. (US 5,669,979, hereinafter "Elliott").

Claims 25 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Mitsumori and further in view of Boquillon et al. (US 5,151,134 hereinafter "Boquillon").

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections in view of the remarks that follow.

Claim 1 as amended recites, *inter alia*:

directing said ultraviolet light energy into said quartz pipe along a trajectory of said stream of liquid to affect target molecules or microorganism species located between the ultraviolet energy source and the destination site thereby disinfecting the liquid, wherein a light path along which ultraviolet light energy passes from the ultraviolet light source towards the destination site is entirely within the quartz pipe

Support for the amendment can be found at least at page 7, 6th full paragraph, original claim 28 and page 8 of the Application as filed.

Mitsumori discloses a washing treatment system having a unique nozzle arrangement for treating surfaces. The nozzle provides a 3-portion liquid path, an introduction path for introducing the treating fluid, a discharge path for discharging the treating fluid and a crossing section (which is the treating area) formed by causing the introduction path and the discharging path to cross each other (see Abstract and Fig. 1).

Other arrangements in Mitsumori include two introduction paths (see Fig. 33A) or two discharging paths (see Fig. 25A). Mitsumori further discloses using irradiating means for irradiating a light onto the treating liquid only in the cross sectional area (the treating area in which the treating liquid contact the treated surface).

The treating area of the washing treatment system in Mitsumori is not a pipe but rather an open cavity with an opening at its bottom to enable contact of liquid with the surface to be treated. Applicants respectfully assert that the term "pipe" is a well-defined dictionary term. The regular meaning of the term "pipe" is a long hollow tube for conducting a fluid. The pipe for conducting liquid must have an opening, which is an inlet for the liquid at one end of the pipe and another opening as an outlet at the other end of the pipe. Clearly, the cross section area disclosed by Mitsumori cannot be considered to be a quartz pipe.

Accordingly, Mitsumori does not teach or suggest at least the above recited element of claim 1. Therefore, Applicants assert that independent claim 1 and the claims dependent there from are allowable over Mitsumori.

Likewise, none of the additional cited references teaches or suggests, and the Examiner does not assert that any of these references teaches or suggests, at least,

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"directing said ultraviolet light energy into said quartz pipe along a trajectory of said stream of liquid to affect target molecules or microorganism species located between the ultraviolet energy source and the destination site thereby disinfecting the liquid, wherein a light path along which ultraviolet light energy passes from the ultraviolet light source towards the destination site is entirely within the quartz pipe", as recited by amended claim 1.

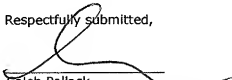
Accordingly, claim 1 and its dependent claims are allowable over any combination of the cited references. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1 -11, 14, 16-19, 21-26 and 28-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant asserts that the pending claims are allowable. Their favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Please charge any fees associated with this paper to deposit account No. 50-3355.

Respectfully submitted,



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